

Observations on State Government Reorganization – Boards and Commissions  
California Performance Review Commission  
Public Hearing  
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The state constitution provides a system of divided power among the branches of state government. Over time, legislative/executive actions and initiative measures passed by the voters have divided the authority within the executive branch. Policymaking functions are often divided among a variety of independent boards and commissions.

What should the CPR commission consider when thinking about the use of boards or commissions as part of executive branch functions? Viewing this question through three categories of boards and commissions may be useful.

- *Stakeholder advisory commissions* - These groups commonly provide input into executive decision-making and consist of interest groups that are directly affected by administration policy.
- *Policymaking/administrative commissions* - These groups often have specific statutory authority to make state policy and administer a state program.
- *Policymaking with quasi-legislative/judicial commissions* - These groups make policy, adopt rules and regulations, and take actions against those who violate their regulations.

PPIC Research that is relevant to the general issue of unified policymaking.

- *School Finance and California's Master Plan for Education*, Editors Jon Sonstelie and Peter Richardson, 2001.
- *Building California's Future: Current Conditions in Infrastructure Planning, Budgeting, and Financing*, Michael Neuman and Jan Whittington, 2000.
- *California's Infrastructure policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Issues and Opportunities*, David Dowall, 2000
- *Making Room for the Future: Building California's Infrastructure*, David Dowall and Jan Whittington, 2003.

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not reflect the views of the Public Policy Institute of California.
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